GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2879
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2008
NATIONAL COAL POLICY
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the most of the thermal power plants are depending on imported coal;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there has been steep rise in the prices of coal in Australia and South Africa;

(d) if so, the details thereof and its likely impact on the power plants in the country;

(e) whether the Government proposes to revise coal policy to ensure that the total coal demand is met domestically only; and

(f) if so, the steps taken or being taken by Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR.DASAR1 NARAYANA RAO)

(a) & (b): No, Sir. During the years 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07, the power utilities which are linked to Coal India Limited (CIL) and Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) were supplied indigenous coal of 281.11 million tonnes, 289.95 million tonnes and 298.18 million tonnes respectively, whereas they imported coal to the tune of 4.43 million tonnes, 10.44 million tonnes and 9.66 tonnes during the said period.

(c) & (d): Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(e) & (f): The New Coal Distribution Policy notified by the Government in October 2007, inter-alia, provides that 100% of the `normative requirement` of power utilities would be considered for supply through Fuel Supply Agreement (FSA) by Coal companies. The policy also provides that in order to meet full requirement of coal under Fuel Supply Agreement, coal companies may have to import if required, from time to time and they may adjust its overall price accordingly.